

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE *7-18-02*

In re application of :  
Satoshi SHIDA et al. : Attn: BOX PCT  
Serial No. NEW : Docket No. 2002\_0278A  
Filed February 26, 2002 :

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HANDLING  
ARRAYED COMPONENTS  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP00/05672  
Filed August 24, 2000]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend  
th application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Kindly replace the original abstract (page 112) with the enclosed substitute  
abstract. A copy of the marked-up changes to the abstract is attached and entitled  
"Version with Markings to Show Changes Made".

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 16 and 19-20 without prejudice or disclaimer recited  
thereof.